



Effects of 2008 legislation – Plumbing

The 2008 Minnesota Legislature passed legislation that has significant impact on the plumbing industry in Minnesota. In part, this legislation has the following effects.

Deadline extended to apply for new “restricted” license for cities with less than 5,000 population and rural areas

- **Plumber license required statewide:** Since Dec. 1, 2007, all people – statewide – working at the business of plumbing must be licensed plumbers or registered apprentices. The one exception is those people who install sewer or water service pipes outside buildings who are certified with pipe laying training and have a \$25,000 plumbing code compliance bond filed with the Department of Labor and Industry. People with restricted licenses may perform plumbing everywhere in the state except in cities with a population of 5,000 or more.
- Unlicensed people with two or more years experience have **until Sept. 30, 2008**, to apply for a “restricted” license.

Application requirements for restricted licenses

- Two years of practical plumbing experience are required for restricted journeyman plumber license.
- Four years of practical plumbing experience or two years as a plumbing contractor are required for restricted master plumber license.
- Applicants who are or have been registered plumber apprentices or licensed journeymen also can apply.
- An application form must be submitted by Sept. 30, 2008, with:
 - a \$30 application fee;
 - evidence of workers’ compensation insurance (if applicant has any employees); and
 - proof of liability insurance (if applicant will be a plumbing contractor).
- Annual license fees are the same as for master and journeyman (\$120 and \$55, respectively). These fees are payable annually with renewal of the licenses.
- Visit www.doli.state.mn.us/pdf/pe_restricted_plumbing_licenses.pdf for more information.

Manufactured home installers license and plumbing connections -- legislative changes

- Persons licensed as manufactured home installers under chapter 327B are not required to be licensed under sections 326B.42 to 326B.49 when connecting the exterior building drain sewer outlets to the above ground building sewer system and when connecting the exterior water line to the above ground water system to the manufactured home as described in National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974, United States Code, title 42, section 5401 et seq. No additional licensure, bond, or insurance related to the scope of work permitted under this subdivision may be required of a licensed manufactured home installer by any unit of government.

Water-free urinals

- The prohibition on water-free urinals in statute was removed, allowing development of state rules on this technology. There are still prohibitions in rule that prevent approval of water-free urinals until rules are promulgated, however. The Plumbing Board will be considering development of rules for this technology.

Master or restricted master must be responsible for plumbing work

- There were clarifications made to statute to make bond and insurance requirements for restricted master plumbers the same as for master plumbers. This also helps clarify that a master plumber (who can work anywhere in the state) or restricted master plumber (who can work everywhere except in cities with a population of 5,000 or more) must be in charge of the work done by the business, and be listed as responsible party on the \$25,000 plumbing code compliance bond.

Definition for plumber’s apprentice

- The definition for plumber’s apprentice was inadvertently repealed in 2007. It was reestablished in 2008.

For more information, visit www.doli.state.mn.us/plumbing.html or call the Plumbing Plan Review and Inspection unit's general phone line at (651) 284-5067.